

“The Animal is the Evidence”

The concept of White Line Atlas Method trimming derives from the concept of “Breed Improvement”. Hence the term “The animal is the evidence.”

This concept revolutionized livestock production capacity by creating a committed core of breeders who shared the vision of improving livestock, generating more wealth for farmers by providing credible and valuable genetic opportunities. This allows society to have a more stable and sustainable food source for humanity.



Founder: Robert Bakewell (1725-1795)

Born May 23 1725, at Dishley Grange in Leicestershire, England. He began his work of scientific breeding of livestock in 1760 on his late father’s farm. His science and logic in observation and recording was over 100 years ahead of his time. He designed a co-operative group of breeders called the Dishley Society. They were breeders of sheep, cattle, swine and horses. So successful was their work, that production of mutton and beef doubled in England by the time of his death. His work was so successful breed associations came into prominence in Europe and eventually North America. His influence is still a force of progress recognized in law in Canada within the Animal Pedigree Act, Agricultural Ministers in 4-H manuals, W.D. Hoard and even the United States National Research Council



Francois Guenon 1796-1855

Is one of the most innovative and respected men in the avenue of practical science benefitting both farm and animal progress by his peers at the turn of the century. His book “Milch Cows- A Treatise Upon the Bovine Species in General” 1900, expresses a method using the swirl patterns of hair on the rear of cattle, to create a predictable production profile of quantity and production time. His work is being continually reprinted and is available on book websites in paperback. His work on the creating of hairline analysis in bovines put credibility into cattle selection. His system was recognized by top published stockmen and researchers of his day. In dairy cattle though the advent of milk recording in the early 1900’s replaced his work. There are 65 editions in 3 languages published between 1838 and 2018 (World Cat’ member libraries worldwide.)

It is my consideration that the man authored the first biomarkers for animal evaluations determined by observing natural marks or external indications alone. (V. Daniel 2021)

Relevance to the White Line Atlas Method.

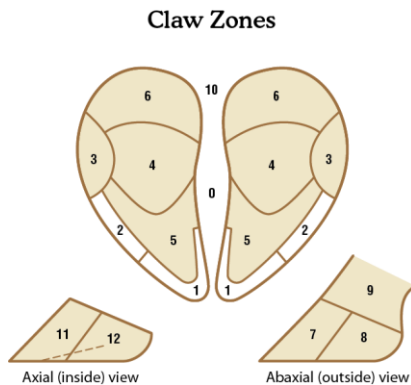
WLA success is based on the animal being the evidence. It's a logical extension of Guenon's work using bio markers as reference points to examine the animal prior to hoof inspection.

The method uses five bio markers which all cattle exhibit and we teach how to find and develop cutting lines that create the stability and efficiency in an animals' foot

These five bio-markers are:

1. the White Line in the claw or toe capsules of the foot.
2. The Heel Fulcrum
3. The Pressure Ridge
4. Normal sole thickness
5. The Break over point of the claw or toe.

The conforming profile we use is the Foot Atlas developed back in 2008 by the International Lameness Committee.



The capacity to understand the normal shape and trajectory of the foot and leg on an animal is critical to prevent trimming errors such as too steep of a foot angle to shallowing or dropping foot angle.

By utilizing WLA logic lines the individual foot, leg trajectory and animal is respected and allows it a truer evaluation by independent third parties, cattle owners and the public who wish to see animals in comfort showing confidence in normal animal behavior.

There are no specific target measurements, foot angle, or heel depth. This is justified by 70 years of breed proving programs through artificial insemination studs and breed associations across North America. Thus, we expose the animal as the evidence rather than; falsify or destroy the evidence through human idealism.

In doing so we protect the integrity of the animal and assessing of effective cattle foot trimming. Proof of breeding value of livestock means that the animal(s) in question need to prove they are consistent in the parameters of their breed, be identified within an identified environment, be reproductively sound and capable of producing a product profitably for the farmer.